

ORIGINAL

NAS7.000135
NASA - JPL
SSIC No. 9661

REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGERS' MEETING

NASA/JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

FILE COPY

16 JANUARY 1997

ATTENDEES:

Jon Bishop, RWQCB-LA

Charles L. Buril, JPL

Mark Cutler, Foster Wheeler

Richard Gebert, DTSC

Debbie Lowe, U.S. EPA

Dan Melchior, Foster Wheeler

Stephen Niou, URS

Judith A. Novelly, JPL

B.G. Randolph, Foster Wheeler

Peter Robles, Jr., NASA



L. R. Linn & Associates
Suite M-10
345 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA. 90071
(213) 628-7874

REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGERS' MEETING

NASA/JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

FILE COPY

16 JANUARY 1997

ATTENDEES:

Jon Bishop, RWQCB-LA

Charles L. Buril, JPL

Mark Cutler, Foster Wheeler

Richard Gebert, DTSC

Debbie Lowe, U.S. EPA

Dan Melchior, Foster Wheeler

Stephen Niou, URS

Judith A. Novelly, JPL

B.G. Randolph, Foster Wheeler

Peter Robles, Jr., NASA

Reported by: Louise K. Mizota, CSR 2818

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

16 JANUARY 1997

9:38 A.M.

BURIL: Welcome, everybody. Does everybody have a copy of the agenda? I'll pass the other stuff out as we go along just to save you from having a stack of stuff in front of you.

Do you have one? Here. Here is one for you.

LOWE: Thanks.

BURIL: Sorry we didn't get that out to you all earlier, but I think that's pretty much what we had talked about at our last telecon, and also added a couple things on there because we've got some results from the groundwater monitoring we want to share with you. A couple of things that came out of this conjunctive use project that we mentioned last time I want to bring to your attention and let you know what's happening on that.

Let me start by saying I think that we should probably go ahead and look at number 1 first, because there are some changes to the schedule that I've done, some which Debbie pointed out last time for the 30 days, 60 days requirements under the FFA.

1 LOWE: Yes.

2 BURIL: We've also run into a couple of problems
3 that are going to delay work start a little bit that
4 I want to tell you about. I'll show you those here.
5 I have a summary schedule. It's not 34 pages long
6 anymore.

7 LOWE: Thank you.

8 BURIL: It's a summary. It's still four pages
9 long. But it's a summary going out to the year
10 2000.

11 Then I'd like to jump to number 4. The
12 reason for that is that we have groundwater results
13 which I think will help us decide about an interim
14 ROD, which is under number 2, and may help flavor
15 the discussion on that a little bit.

16 Then the last two things, the partnering
17 meeting and the conjunctive use we can talk about.

18 I had tried to put together an agenda for
19 us to look at for the partnering meeting, but in
20 doing this I realized that there may be a number of
21 ways to deal with this. So if we have time, I would
22 suggest that we basically work it in real time here
23 today, actually lay the agenda out so we're all in
24 agreement, and then we can work it from there. I
25 have some ideas we can use as a straw man and beat

1 that up and go from there.

2 Then the conjunctive use basically is to
3 let you know some of the contacts we've had and go
4 on from there.

5 So let me pass out the schedule first and
6 let you have a look at that. This one is not in
7 color. Our color printer decided to give out on us.

8 BISHOP: Well, I'm out of here.

9 BURIL: Go ahead and send that around.

10 Does everyone have one of these now?

11 Okay.

12 Now, again, the only changes that I've
13 made, I'll point them out to you so you'll know.
14 First was in the review times and they aren't shown
15 on here now. They only are showing milestones and
16 length of time for major tasks. But in the review
17 periods, we've gone through and made sure that they
18 conform to the FFA requirements of 30 days or 60
19 days, depending upon the document. So that hardly
20 altered anything at all. In fact, most of them were
21 shortened by about a day or two because if you have
22 weekends or three-day weekends or that kind of thing
23 in there, we weren't counting those. But they do
24 count now.

25 Secondly, it's not shown in here, but

1 what's happened is we've run into some procurement
2 snags through the subcontractor contract
3 development. First of all, we've got a problem with
4 terms and conditions with some of the contracts that
5 have cropped up, and so we've got a delay
6 anticipated as a result of that.

7 Also, in our procurement efforts with
8 Foster Wheeler, they were nearly complete and ran
9 into some slowdowns here at JPL. The slowdowns,
10 quite honestly, were as a result of some of our
11 spacecraft projects that stepped up to the bat and
12 said "Hey, us first," and that's the way it is.
13 Well, that's our primary mission here, is to build
14 spacecraft. The one that jumped in front was Mars
15 Pathfinder. That's an exceptionally important
16 project to JPL and NASA. So the procurement folks
17 turned their attention to that, and they're going to
18 be getting back to us here within the next week.
19 But they have been focused on Pathfinder now for
20 about almost four weeks, which has created a delay
21 in the procurement cycle.

22 So what you'll see here is that you'll see
23 that the subcontractor contract development and
24 implementation for OUs-1 and 2, that those have been
25 extended by about two weeks in OU-2 and by four

1 weeks in OU-1.

2 Now, basically, it comes down to we can't
3 start work until after these contracts and
4 everything are in place. So the Operable Unit 2
5 work, which would have started on February 18th, I
6 think it was, has now been pushed back. That's
7 going to be March 4th. And the OU-1 work, which was
8 also February 14th, is now pushed back to March, I
9 think it's 17th.

10 So again, approximately two weeks and
11 approximately four weeks for OU-s 2 and 1,
12 respectively. Everything else is virtually
13 identical.

14 Any comment?

15 GEBERT: Is the rest of the schedule going to be
16 pushed back?

17 BURIL: Virtually everything else is pushed back
18 by that time frame, right, since we can't start work
19 until after that. Those were, unfortunately,
20 critical path items that we couldn't work around.
21 Procurement tends to throw monkey wrenches in
22 schedules, it seems.

23 So any comments, concerns, questions on
24 that? Certainly it's something that you've seen
25 before, with the exception of those two changes.

1 Like I say, virtually everything else is the same.

2 We have the milestone dates. As you look
3 through them, what I did is I just printed out the
4 first columns and the major tasks here. So as you
5 look through this, you'll see what we're talking
6 about. For example, on line 44 on the first page,
7 "Prepare the draft OU-2 RI report." And we show
8 that submit the report would be done May 1st of '98,
9 which is about two weeks back of what it was
10 originally.

11 So this just basically highlights all the
12 milestones.

13 BISHOP: You were talking about line 44?

14 BURIL: On the first page. "Prepare draft OU-2
15 RI report (risk assessment)."

16 BISHOP: It says August, not May.

17 BURIL: Which one are you -- oh, I'm sorry.
18 Look at -- I'm sorry. I'm pointing at the wrong
19 one. That's the major task. The subtask under
20 that, "Submit draft RI report for concurrent agency
21 review" is May 1st.

22 BISHOP: Oh, okay.

23 BURIL: So that's our current schedule, and
24 literally up to the minute. We finished modifying
25 this thing yesterday afternoon and this morning

1 based on conversations with the procurement division
2 here at JPL.

3 Well, if we don't have any questions on
4 that at this point, we can come back to it if you
5 think of anything along the way, and deal with that.

6 (Discussion held outside the record.)

7 BURIL: Let me hand out, then, number 4. I'm
8 going to skip around in the agenda. I think it will
9 be more effective for us to look at the data that we
10 have available.

11 What I have here are some maps which
12 indicate various concentrations and groundwater
13 contours. This comes from our August-September
14 groundwater monitoring results report, which is
15 probably by this time sitting on all of your desks
16 at your office waiting to be opened. It was sent
17 out yesterday. So we'll pass that around.

18 This is for the organics that we have a
19 concern with as well as metals and identifies it for
20 both August and September.

21 And we also have the draft report in our
22 house that's currently under review. We just
23 received that. But I wanted to share the same maps
24 with you for November and December so you can see
25 what's happening in terms of the groundwater quality

1 here at JPL, as that may have an impact on how we
2 ultimately decide how we're going to approach
3 Operable Unit 3.

4 These are October-November. This is
5 September --

6 GEBERT: Are there two different --

7 BURIL: There are two different ones.

8 GEBERT: Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't realize.

9 BURIL: There are two different ones. You
10 should have two sets, the first one going
11 August-September, and the second one
12 October-November. And contained within those are
13 numbers regarding concentrations, the various
14 constituents, and also groundwater contours.

15 What I'll point out to you is a couple of
16 things. First of all, we have MW --

17 ROBLES: August? Which one?

18 BURIL: I'm looking at August. I'll go
19 chronologically. I'm looking at the very first one,
20 Figure 3-1, carbon tetrachloride.

21 And Mark or Dan or B.G., if you folks want
22 to point something out that I don't point out,
23 please feel free to step up to the plate and let us
24 know.

25 The most interesting thing that I saw at

1 the outset of this is that we're now picking up some
2 constituents out in Operable Unit 3, particularly in
3 Well 17 and Well 18.

4 We also show some very small hits at MW-10
5 for carbon tetrachloride in Figure 3-1.

6 CUTLER: I just want to point out that on this
7 October-November event there's about five upper
8 screens in Well 16. It says "not sampled." Water
9 levels dropped to the lowest levels we've ever seen
10 out here, and those screens were dry.

11 ROBLES: That's October. But we're still on
12 August.

13 BURIL: We're still on August.

14 CUTLER: I'm sorry.

15 BURIL: We'll get to that here in a second.

16 Then on Figure 3-2 for August-September
17 for trich, we can see that concentrations in MW-10
18 are similar to what we're seeing in MW-21, and that
19 we're also seeing trich out in Wells 17 and 18,
20 which we had not seen before.

21 BISHOP: It also seems like it's similar to
22 MW-4, also.

23 BURIL: That's correct.

24 ROBLES: Which one?

25 BURIL: MW-4, right here.

1 LOWE: So MW-17 has been nondetect to date?

2 BURIL: Up to these sampling events, yes.

3 Is that a correct statement, Mark?

4 CUTLER: I think we've have only seen it out
5 there.

6 BURIL: But it had been a small quantity, if I
7 recall correctly.

8 CUTLER: Right. I can tell you.

9 BURIL: We'll doublecheck that just to be safe.
10 These are higher concentrations than I recall
11 seeing.

12 Then looking at Figure 3-3,
13 1,2-dichloroethane, we've got a little bit showing
14 up here and there. Actually only one well, MW-4,
15 with anything significant.

16 Again now, let me point out that these are
17 concentrations that are above the MCL. Anything
18 that is below MCL is not presented on these maps.

19 ROBLES: But that doesn't mean it wasn't there.

20 BURIL: That doesn't mean it wasn't there, but
21 we're only showing ones that ring a bell that we
22 understand. So we've got MW-4 and we have MW-13 and
23 MW-7, and MW-16 as well.

24 So 7, 16 and 13 is not surprising, because
25 that's the quadrilateral, again, that we've had the

1 highest concentrations in. MW-4 is fairly small
2 concentrations, and probably not entirely surprising
3 to see something there. And the rest of the wells
4 appear to be clean.

5 BISHOP: They are below MCL.

6 BURIL: Below MCL. Correct.

7 BISHOP: That information may be useful in
8 linking things at times.

9 BURIL: That's right.

10 CUTLER: But keep in mind for the carbon tet and
11 the 1,2-DCA --

12 BISHOP: It's very low.

13 CUTLER: -- the MCL and the detection are the
14 same.

15 BISHOP: Right.

16 CUTLER: It's only for the TCE map there might
17 be some detects below 5 that aren't on the map. But
18 these other two -- every detect is on here.

19 BURIL: Then on Figure 3-4 we present the metals
20 analyses.

21 Mark, correct me if I'm wrong. These are
22 the metal analyses, basically, what we found. There
23 was no indication of an MCL association with this at
24 all. Correct?

25 CUTLER: These are the detects.

1 BURIL: These are the detects that we found.
2 Right. So this is everything.

3 ROBLES: There are no MCLs associated with any
4 of these?

5 BURIL: There is a --

6 GEBERT: I think there is an MCL --

7 BURIL: For chromium and lead.

8 GEBERT: Lead and chromium have MCLs.

9 ROBLES: These are below it?

10 BURIL: Can anybody recall? What is that?

11 GEBERT: I think lead is 5.

12 BURIL: 5 parts per million, if I remember
13 correctly.

14 GEBERT: Right.

15 BURIL: And chrome is what?

16 GEBERT: Total chrome?

17 BURIL: Is 50 parts per billion? Is that what
18 it is?

19 GEBERT: Yes.

20 BURIL: Is that what it is?

21 NIOU: California, 50. EPA, federal is well
22 under.

23 BISHOP: For total chrome. Isn't there one for
24 hex chrome also?

25 BURIL: No. They don't establish one for hex

1 chrome.

2 CUTLER: There's no MCL.

3 ROBLES: So we're saying there's no MCL levels.

4 CUTLER: For hex chrome.

5 ROBLES: No. Any of these are above MCL levels.

6 CUTLER: No. These are all the detects.

7 BURIL: These are all the detects, but nothing
8 above MCL. Is that a true statement, Mark?

9 CUTLER: No.

10 BURIL: Which one is above MCL?

11 CUTLER: I'd have to look at the tables and go
12 through this. They weren't highlighted. This is
13 just a map of all the metals detects.

14 BURIL: If 50 parts per billion is the total
15 chrome, we're getting close at MW-13. And we're
16 getting close at -- where is it? I saw it on here.

17 But off site we've got very low
18 concentrations of everything, basically. Arsenic is
19 one that we saw at Well 3 in the past. In fact,
20 we've seen arsenic every time there, haven't we?

21 CUTLER: The bottom screen of Well 3, that's
22 about the only place and it's always been there
23 since 1990. It's a historical --

24 BURIL: It's in no other location, though, that
25 would be that deep. We've got one hit up here on

1 arsenic I think I see here in Well 11, bottom
2 screen.

3 CUTLER: The bottom screen. Right.

4 BURIL: Are those two screened, Mark, in
5 approximately the same depth?

6 CUTLER: Pretty close. I could tell you exactly
7 if you'd like. But --

8 BURIL: I think that's --

9 CUTLER: Close enough.

10 BURIL: If they're close, then this may be an
11 indication of a naturally occurring situation since
12 we don't see it anywhere else, and it's awfully
13 deep.

14 LOWE: Was there no hex chrome detected at MW-4?

15 CUTLER: Pardon me? I'm sorry.

16 LOWE: Was there no hex chrome detected at MW-4?

17 CUTLER: Correct. Hex chrome was only in three
18 wells, 7, 13 and 10.

19 LOWE: Do you have any thoughts as to why, from
20 MW-13 and MW-10 and the duplicate at MW-7, it seems
21 like all of the chrome is hex chrome, but then at
22 MW-4 you have chromium, no hex chrome, and at the
23 first sampling in MW-7 it's like half of it is hex
24 chrome. Do you have any initial thoughts on that?

25 CUTLER: No, but we've noticed that. We talked

1 about before, I believe, that the dissolved chrome
2 is hex chrome. If you detect it, it will be hex
3 chrome. That seems to be what we're seeing here.

4 BURIL: But the absence of it being hex chrome
5 in Well 4.

6 Mark, was there a turbidity problem in
7 those screens at Well 4 that may account for that?

8 CUTLER: No. The only turbidity problem was in
9 the upper screen of Well 12 and that's because the
10 water level was right -- we had like two feet of
11 water to try to sample. We just couldn't turn it
12 up.

13 BISHOP: Is this historically the same? I can't
14 remember what we've seen at MW-4 before. Have we
15 seen just total and not hex?

16 CUTLER: I'm more familiar with the vols. I can
17 tell you in a second.

18 BISHOP: Make you look through your tables.
19 You should know these things off the top of your
20 head, Mark.

21 CUTLER: No. Actually, total chrome was
22 detected once in November and not in the previous,
23 it looks like six events. So total chrome is fairly
24 new in that well, that screen. That's kind of the
25 general trend for Well 4, even the VOCs. They

1 didn't really start showing up until three or four
2 weeks ago. The first three or four years there was
3 nothing.

4 BURIL: Depending on how you interpret these,
5 there may be some explanation of this. As you turn
6 the page and look at Figure 5-1, you can see we've
7 got a pretty significant groundwater depression here
8 created by the public water supply wells. So there
9 may be an influence generated by that that may be
10 moving water in different directions. That coupled
11 with our historic low that we're apparently
12 experiencing in the aquifer.

13 BISHOP: That ought to be coming up now.

14 BURIL: Hopefully.

15 BISHOP: How much rain did you get to date?

16 BURIL: I haven't checked the rain gauge here at
17 the Lab. I live essentially in the same general
18 vicinity against the mountains. We got about two
19 and a half inches this last storm. Overall I would
20 have to say we probably have in the neighborhood of
21 8 to 10 inches here at the Lab.

22 BISHOP: We got quite a bit just four blocks
23 away. So I figure the drainage up here was fine.

24 BURIL: I wouldn't be surprised at all if we've
25 had 18 inches of rain thus far.

1 LOWE: Maybe we can sample those dry wells.

2 BURIL: That's what we're hoping. We had seen
3 low level at the aquifer back in -- when was that?
4 '88 time frame, somewhere in there?

5 CUTLER: A little bit after that. Like Well 7
6 we had about three feet of water in it. We were
7 sweating bullets. But this is the lowest it's ever
8 been.

9 BISHOP: That was the same in the November?

10 CUTLER: No. I meant the November-October event
11 is the lowest.

12 BURIL: Is the lowest. Not this one, but the
13 next one.

14 GEBERT: Is that due to the amount of rainfall,
15 or is it due to pumping or --

16 BURIL: I'd say last year we had a drier year
17 than normal. So that was probably part of the
18 reason. But the production wells apparently have
19 been operating pretty steadily. So I think that's
20 another aspect that's created it.

21 Then the last one, Figure 5-2, conditions
22 of September, which really don't look that much
23 different.

24 Skipping up to the next quarterly.

25 BISHOP: If I'm reading it right, you actually

1 dropped 10 feet in the same position between -- the
2 general trend looks the same, but the magnitude.

3 BURIL: The actual water levels.

4 MELCHIOR: If you look at some of the wells,
5 like MW-19, you lose almost 40 feet.

6 LOWE: You're kidding.

7 BURIL: No. He's right. The water table did
8 sink, on an overall average, about 10 feet from the
9 length --

10 BISHOP: Even though the trend -- I mean, the
11 picture looks very similar. It's just a different
12 magnitude.

13 BURIL: The entire thing has just sunk.

14 CUTLER: Right. They seem to be keeping the
15 pumps on longer during the year now. You look at
16 these long-term hydrographs, the pumps will be on
17 and then off, then on and then off. Now it seems
18 they're on, and off a very short time.

19 BISHOP: I just thought I heard something about
20 they're doing some work on the surface water
21 diversion upstream, which is one area that the City
22 of Pasadena gets water. It's just up the Arroyo
23 there. They have surface water and they take water
24 out there and put it through a treatment plant.

25 BURIL: The treatment plant is literally just up

1 the hillside.

2 CUTLER: There's a chlorination plant right
3 there.

4 BISHOP: I thought I read something that they
5 were working on the ground this year. And that may
6 be why the pumps are on longer, because they're not
7 using that water right now.

8 BURIL: That's possible. I had not heard that,
9 but that certainly makes sense.

10 BISHOP: I just maybe read in the paper or
11 something.

12 CUTLER: It all seems to be driven by economics,
13 too. If it's cheaper for them to pump it than to
14 buy it from MWD, they'll do it. So maybe the rates
15 of MWD influence.

16 BISHOP: And those rates have been climbing.

17 CUTLER: I don't know.

18 BURIL: Okay. Moving on to the second one.
19 Again, this report, where these figures come from is
20 currently in review and will be submitted as soon as
21 we can get our review complete. It's going to be a
22 little behind the schedule that we identified for
23 you earlier. In fact, we may need to revisit the
24 monitoring report submission schedule because we're
25 finding that it's taking longer for us to get the

1 report generated than what we initially anticipated.
2 So that may be something we'll have to take a look
3 at in the future.

4 But take a look at these. The results for
5 carbon tet are similar. But again, we're still
6 seeing the concentrations out at wells 17 and 18.
7 You can see again that we had a further depression
8 of the water table. As indicated, some of these
9 upper screens were not sampled because they had been
10 dry.

11 MELCHIOR: I want to point out that we're going
12 to start sampling in a couple weeks again. So we're
13 anxious to see if those screens have come back.

14 BISHOP: It looks like 12, which was nondetect
15 before, is now starting to --

16 BURIL: Detect.

17 BISHOP: -- pick up.

18 BURIL: That's correct.

19 CUTLER: No. 12 was detect before. Its box is
20 over to the right a little.

21 BURIL: Oh, you're right. I'm sorry.

22 BISHOP: I'm sorry. Yeah.

23 CUTLER: We're going to rearrange this a little
24 bit so it's a little easier.

25 BURIL: It's similar concentration. Not exact,

1 but similar.

2 BISHOP: Okay. Just missed that.

3 BURIL: I did too, Jon. I thought you were
4 right.

5 CUTLER: We're going to move this around.

6 LOWE: Any thoughts about MW-7 in the two
7 sampling events?

8 BURIL: You mean the almost doubling of the
9 concentration there? Is that what you're looking
10 at?

11 LOWE: Yes.

12 BURIL: We've seen that well fluctuate at that
13 level for carbon tet like this for as long as we've
14 been sampling it. Exactly what the mechanism is
15 that causes that is still a mystery.

16 MELCHIOR: What's odd is if you look at the TCE
17 numbers for MW-7 actually in October-November, they
18 went down compared to August-September. So there's
19 really no direct relationship. I mean, if you could
20 say there was a direct relationship that would be
21 one thing, but it's apparent they behave quite a bit
22 differently.

23 BISHOP: TCE numbers are pretty close, though.
24 27 and 37 are --

25 BURIL: They're about the same number. But the

1 changes in the carbon tet and seeing them -- rather
2 than TCE and carbon tet tracking each other as you
3 would expect, they're doing this.

4 CUTLER: Typically, this 170 level is more
5 typical. Every now and then it will jump down to
6 this double digit, pop back up, pop back down.

7 LOWE: Does it seem to be correlated with water
8 level, or not?

9 CUTLER: To be honest, I haven't really looked
10 that closely at that specific well and that specific
11 compound.

12 BURIL: We can take a look at that as we
13 evaluate this data. Certainly that's a possibility.

14 BISHOP: It's really hard. The well data just
15 goes up, does that. It has some sort of its own
16 little --

17 BURIL: Some driver. I don't think anyone has
18 really figured it out yet. I've compared it to a
19 cutting edge of a double bucksaw, if you've ever
20 seen those. The lumberjacks use them. They're just
21 all over the place.

22 Here is the hydrograph here. You can see.
23 Get it up here where you can all get a look at it.
24 These are the historical loads we were seeing
25 before. This was back in '94. Here is where we saw

1 highs when we didn't have the pumping influence.

2 And here we're off the scale.

3 CUTLER: That's not completely up to date. But
4 that downward trend, it kept going.

5 BURIL: Okay. Flip over to the next page, 3-2
6 for October-November. You see that we're still
7 seeing TCE in the same wells. Here, though, we've
8 been unable to sample Well 16 because it went dry.
9 We are still seeing it out in Well 18 and in Well
10 17.

11 Well 21, the first screen, which is
12 typically where we saw TCE in the past, that screen
13 had run dry. So we have no ability to see if we had
14 similar concentrations as we've seen in the past
15 with Well 10.

16 Then on the next one for the 1,2-DCA,
17 we're seeing a couple more detects here, but for the
18 most part it's pretty much the same as it was before
19 that.

20 BISHOP: Actually, on this map that you've got
21 for the DCA on 21 it says "nondetects," then it says
22 "not sampled." Is that just a --

23 BURIL: That's to say screens 2 through 5
24 weren't detect for the samples that we took. But
25 screen 1 couldn't be sampled. So there's only four

1 samples out of that as opposed to five.

2 BISHOP: And the same on the TCE? It just
3 didn't get labeled that way?

4 BURIL: Yes.

5 BISHOP: I just want to make sure they were the
6 same.

7 CUTLER: On TCE there might be something below
8 an MCL. On 21 there's a chance that happened.
9 Something below an MCL on a lower screen. So that's
10 probably why it said no detect. There was not a no
11 detect.

12 BISHOP: Right. Got you.

13 CUTLER: If this is confusing, we can change it.

14 BURIL: And then flipping to the next one,
15 Figure 3-4, this again is all the metals that we
16 found. Is that correct, Mark?

17 CUTLER: Yes.

18 BURIL: You can see a few low hits on lead that
19 we didn't see before, very low hits. Same wells
20 show up for arsenic as did before.

21 CUTLER: And no hex chrome in Well 10.

22 BURIL: And again, based on my read of this, I
23 didn't find anything that was above an MCL on the
24 metals.

25 CUTLER: We did not sample for aluminum this

1 second time because the first round -- we added that
2 in. Penny wanted aluminum for everything. Nothing
3 was above any type of a screening level. So we did
4 our one-time --

5 BURIL: So we did our analyses, found no
6 indication to continue, so we stopped.

7 NIOU: Mark, may I ask, what's the original
8 arsenic value?

9 CUTLER: The background?

10 NIOU: Yes. Regional background.

11 CUTLER: I don't know. If you just look at the
12 site, I'd say nondetect. We have a couple deep
13 screens that always have arsenic that I think is
14 just part of the sediments, just that is natural for
15 that depth at that location. But other than that,
16 it's nondetect on site.

17 BURIL: When I look at that, I look to the upper
18 screens of the multi-port wells and also the
19 shallower screened standpipe wells. And if the
20 arsenic were something that was associated with JPL
21 operations and it made its way into the environment
22 through the years, I would expect to see it at other
23 locations like we do for the volatiles, like carbon
24 tet and so forth. We see it in the upper screens
25 and lower screens. But finding it in the very

1 bottom screen only of two wells tends to make me
2 think that's something that is probably naturally
3 occurring, if it isn't something that's coming from
4 off site, which I have my severe doubts about as
5 well.

6 So I really think we're dealing with
7 something that would be a natural part of the
8 sediment structure at that depth. And it's not
9 uncommon, I would think, in Southern California to
10 find arsenic-laden soil. So we may just be tapped
11 into a strata that has it.

12 The next page, 5-1, shows a very similar
13 kind of layout again in terms of the configuration
14 of the groundwater table. But if you look at what
15 we had in September at a couple of these wells, you
16 see that the dropping off apparently has slowed down
17 some. About 5 to 7 feet, it looks like,
18 approximately, changes.

19 Some of them --

20 BISHOP: Went up a little bit.

21 BURIL: -- went up a little bit. Right. Well
22 1, for example, went up about a foot, a little over
23 a foot.

24 So the plunge over the cliff appears to
25 have slowed as far as the water tables are

1 concerned.

2 Then if you look at the next one, the
3 water table appears to be recovering a little bit.
4 It went up by a couple of feet in a few locations.

5 Now, Mark, for the multi-port wells, these
6 are for the first screen only. Is that right?

7 CUTLER: Yes.

8 BURIL: That's why you see in some of these
9 there's an asterisk where it says water level is
10 below screen interval?

11 CUTLER: Right.

12 BURIL: That's because it's below the first
13 screen interval. There's no way to measure it.

14 CUTLER: We felt the second screen was just a
15 little bit too deep to be representative of the
16 water table.

17 BISHOP: Yes.

18 BURIL: Okay. Well, that's everything we've got
19 up to date.

20 BISHOP: And you said that these come from the
21 first --

22 BURIL: First and second monitoring reports.
23 Correct. The first one, as you get back to your
24 offices today or tomorrow, should be sitting there
25 on your desk --

1 BISHOP: Right.

2 BURIL: -- if Federal Express works the way
3 they're supposed to.

4 And the second one is in review here at
5 JPL, and they'll be a little behind schedule, but
6 we'll get that as rapidly as we can. It should be,
7 hopefully, no more than two or three weeks,
8 something like that.

9 LOWE: So this September-November data has been
10 validated.

11 BURIL: Well, recall that the way we agreed to
12 do the validation is, we agreed to do the validation
13 after the report was submitted to you folks so that
14 you got the information as rapidly as we could give
15 it to you.

16 LOWE: Okay.

17 BURIL: So no, these have not been validated
18 yet.

19 CUTLER: I don't believe all of the data was
20 going to be validated.

21 BURIL: No. It was only 10 percent.

22 CUTLER: 10 percent.

23 BURIL: Okay. So any comments or questions
24 regarding --

25 BISHOP: I think we should put it essentially on

1 the schedule for the next RPM meeting so we can look
2 at the actual quarterly report.

3 BURIL: The actual reports. That's fine.

4 BISHOP: And have a chance to digest it, if
5 that's okay with you guys.

6 BURIL: Sure. I have no problem with that.

7 Given what we've seen here today and
8 without having had an opportunity to digest it, I
9 guess there's a discussion that we wanted to hold on
10 the interim ROD and what we might anticipate as a
11 need to move to an interim ROD in Operable Unit 3.

12 Debbie, was that you that came up with
13 that idea?

14 LOWE: Yes. I brought some guidance documents
15 down. I think you probably got this one by fax,
16 Chuck.

17 BURIL: Yes. We have it right here.

18 LOWE: Yes. I don't know that I brought enough
19 copies for everybody.

20 BURIL: I have four here, if you have just a
21 couple extra.

22 LOWE: I have four extras.

23 BURIL: That should just about cover us. Let me
24 keep one and I'll pass three this way. If Foster
25 Wheeler can share one, that will help.

1 LOWE: Just to remind everybody, the reason why
2 this originally came up is because Jon and I were
3 talking about how, in the off-base groundwater we're
4 really not drilling any new wells or collecting any
5 new data other than quarterly monitoring and is
6 there a way to speed up that ROD in order to show
7 progress to our management, to the public,
8 everybody.

9 And Chuck had asked me to bring down some
10 guidance talking about why you do an interim ROD,
11 how it gets structured, what the process is. And
12 that starts about on the third or fourth page. The
13 reason why you do an interim ROD is laid out in the
14 first paragraph, "to take a quick action to protect
15 human health in the environment from an imminent
16 threat in the short term while a final remedial
17 solution is being developed."

18 So it seems like we could take a look at
19 the off-base situation and decide, you know, are the
20 wellhead treatments that are there now sufficient,
21 is there anything else that we need to do in the
22 short term, and then sign that ROD, and then at a
23 later date when we look comprehensively at the
24 relationship between on base and off base, that we
25 could develop the final remedial action for the

1 groundwater together.

2 BURIL: Okay. Let me ask you this: Recognizing
3 you haven't had a chance, really, to digest what's
4 been shown to you in these maps, would you
5 anticipate that with the concentrations that we're
6 seeing in the two wells, 17 and 18, that we may be
7 in a position of needing to do more work out there
8 prior to the development of an interim ROD?

9 This is new data, obviously, and something
10 that you haven't had a chance to review. I
11 appreciate that very much. But the thing that
12 strikes me is that if we go to an interim ROD, I
13 think we're probably in a position of doing exactly
14 as you said, taking the existing groundwater
15 treatment systems, saying, hopefully, that they are
16 adequate and that we are in a monitor and no further
17 action until such time as we deem that there's
18 something to do here on site versus off, and how
19 that works.

20 My first thought was that if we do that,
21 then we're saying that even with these levels of
22 detection that we're seeing in these wells, that our
23 plume off site is adequately characterized. I have
24 no problem saying that. I think that's a reasonable
25 conclusion based on what we're seeing in Well 20.

1 But I raise it only from the standpoint of wanting
2 to be sure that you folks recognize it. That would
3 be the tacit decision that we've made by issuing an
4 interim ROD, that there is no need for further
5 characterization.

6 BISHOP: Yes. That's, I guess, implicit in the
7 decision.

8 The issue that I see, and we're going to
9 have to look at these numbers more before we get --

10 BURIL: Sure. Absolutely.

11 BISHOP: The City of Pasadena wells here have
12 the treatment on them. And then as I understand,
13 Lincoln Avenue 5 has treatment on it?

14 BURIL: Lincoln Avenue 5, I don't believe does.
15 I think it's Lincoln Avenue 3 that actually has the
16 treatment.

17 BISHOP: It's Lincoln Avenue 3 that has the
18 treatment.

19 BURIL: Right.

20 ROBLES: We're in negotiations.

21 BURIL: And we're in negotiations to treat the
22 other wells.

23 BISHOP: Because just as a first look at it,
24 Lincoln Avenue 5 seems to be an impossible path from
25 17 to 18.

1 BURIL: Agreed.

2 BISHOP: That would be the area that we would,
3 if we wanted to do an interim ROD, at least at first
4 look, that we would want to look at to protect that
5 well in some way. I don't have any recent data from
6 that well so I don't know what the -- how it
7 compares.

8 BURIL: I haven't seen anything recently either.
9 So I don't have any more than what's been brought to
10 you thus far.

11 BISHOP: I think the last meeting we looked at
12 some of that data.

13 MELCHIOR: Chuck, can I ask a point of
14 clarification, more than anything else.

15 Debbie, you were talking earlier about
16 controls in terms of a wellhead treatment using
17 existing systems. Just out of curiosity, would you
18 consider that a no new action in the terms of this
19 guidance document, or is that actually considered an
20 institutional control, the wellhead treatment
21 concept?

22 LOWE: I think it's confusing because the
23 wellhead treatments that have been put on there
24 haven't been covered by any CERCLA action. I don't
25 think there was a removal action or anything like

1 that that covered it.

2 So to me it would be, you know, blessing
3 those actions that have already been taken and
4 selecting those as the remedy, although, you know,
5 it wouldn't be any new capital cost to keep them
6 going. You would probably look at the O & M cost
7 for those as part of your ROD.

8 MELCHIOR: I understand. So it wouldn't qualify
9 as what's considered here a no action decision?

10 LOWE: No.

11 MELCHIOR: I was reading the first paragraph of
12 your no action decision.

13 BISHOP: In San Gabriel we came to essentially
14 that same conclusion, that existing wellhead
15 treatments have to be considered, at least the cost
16 of them, as a part of your evaluation of
17 alternatives. It isn't, I guess, fair or justified
18 to say since it was put on not as part of the CERCLA
19 action, the cost that's being paid for that is
20 ignored because essentially they may be providing
21 the remedy and that cost, then is that the most
22 inexpensive way to address it? Is that the most
23 efficient way? It may not be or it may be.
24 Sometimes it is and sometimes it isn't. It should
25 just be looked at in the final --

1 MELCHIOR: Final analysis.

2 BISHOP: Yes. Alternatives.

3 BURIL: Given that we have two systems in place,
4 with a third one under negotiation and so forth, and
5 not having done anything more than peruse this, what
6 would be the steps that you would anticipate we
7 would need to go through?

8 We've talked a little bit about the ROD
9 aspect, but I guess one of the things that strikes
10 me is that having had the systems already put into
11 place that virtually had no feasibility studies done
12 on them at all, if we would be required in some way
13 to pursue a feasibility evaluation of these things
14 and then a ROD? Or what would be the process
15 approach?

16 MELCHIOR: Actually, there was a feasibility
17 study done on the City of Pasadena wells.

18 BURIL: You're thinking of the Montgomery study?

19 MELCHIOR: The Montgomery study was a
20 feasibility study. So even though JPL didn't do
21 that directly, that was a feasibility study on the
22 alternatives and the selection of the treatment
23 technology.

24 BURIL: I guess it's a question of feasibility
25 for what.

1 MELCHIOR: Right.

2 LOWE: I think we need to back up and think
3 about what would be the purpose for doing this
4 interim ROD.

5 BURIL: Right.

6 LOWE: If you look at the guidance, it says
7 you're focusing on one specific action or one
8 specific purpose while you think about the overall
9 cleanup strategy that you need in the future. And I
10 think in this case what we would want to be able to
11 say the purpose of this ROD is, is that we've looked
12 at the contamination from JPL and where it's gone
13 off base and we've evaluated all the potential
14 receptors and determined that these actions are
15 necessary to protect human health.

16 So you've looked at the Los Flores wells
17 and said we know our contamination doesn't go out
18 that far. We've looked up here and we know our
19 contamination didn't go out that far.

20 In terms of the wellhead treatments that
21 you've already put in place, I think the only
22 options you would look at are is it necessary to
23 continue this action or can we start bypassing the
24 treatment system. You would only look at those two
25 options.

1 BURIL: I see.

2 ROBLES: If we do an interim ROD, it needs to go
3 out to public comment. Right?

4 LOWE: Yes.

5 ROBLES: It will need to go to Lincoln Avenue.

6 LOWE: They're part of the public.

7 ROBLES: And if they don't approve it?

8 LOWE: The public has the opportunity to input
9 into the agencies making the remedy selection, and
10 they don't have the ability to approve or
11 disapprove. They comment, and that's one of the
12 things that we consider as part of the nine criteria
13 in remedy selection.

14 BURIL: Now, an interesting piece of this, and
15 maybe this is why an interim ROD is something that
16 may or may not be appropriate, but certainly I don't
17 think we're in a position of being able to do a
18 final ROD, and that is blending number 5 on the
19 agenda in here a little bit, and that is the
20 conjunctive use program.

21 Recognizing that this particular program
22 is something that is likely to be in place about the
23 time that we would be ready to go to final ROD based
24 on the schedule that they're telling us now, they'd
25 like to have their entire program in place and

1 operational in about two years, which, in essence,
2 is when we're going to be ready to go to remedial
3 construction.

4 I guess I'm a little concerned about what
5 avenues, given the fact that we've gone through this
6 interim ROD, assuming we do, and we've said, okay,
7 this is fine, no problem. What impact would that
8 have on the conjunctive use program, if any, and
9 what could we anticipate as being the impact it
10 would have on final ROD at the point in time that
11 that comes up?

12 I'm trying to look two years ahead here.

13 BISHOP: When you say "impact," are you talking
14 about what impact on the hydrogeology, or what
15 impact on the economics or the political, or all of
16 them kind of put together?

17 BURIL: All of them kind of shoved together. I
18 don't think you can divorce one from the other very
19 easily.

20 BISHOP: I think you have to look somewhat back
21 and say, okay, what are the effects that's going to
22 happen to the groundwater. That's one area you need
23 to look at because that may make a difference in
24 what you choose for remedy selection.

25 BURIL: Right.

1 BISHOP: Then what impact does it have on the
2 financial obligations that NASA has and the City of
3 Pasadena would then take on and the conjunctive use
4 would take on.

5 Because they may be changing the -- or
6 will be changing the groundwater flow patterns --

7 BURIL: Dramatically.

8 BISHOP: -- in the basin. And they may be
9 changing them beneficially or detrimentally to the
10 contamination just in that isolated look. So you
11 have to look at kind of the groundwater first and
12 then --

13 BURIL: Actually, you've kind of laid out the
14 series of concerns that I think we may be facing
15 here, and that is, one, we have a groundwater issue,
16 obviously, as the hydrogeology begins to change in
17 response to the implementation of this program, and
18 what that means to our remedial efforts either here
19 on site or maybe even off site in terms of capacity
20 of the plants or type of plants, and so forth.

21 The second part of this, though, that
22 strikes me is one that's more immediate, and that is
23 that if we identify that they, indeed, will have an
24 impact not only on these existing systems but
25 possibly on a system that would be constructed two,

1 three years from now, that perhaps there is a need
2 to intervene in some fashion to be sure that one
3 goal does not adversely impact another goal.

4 You see what I mean? If the goal of
5 implementing this program does not create such a
6 concern --

7 BISHOP: Right. I'm not sure -- I mean --

8 BURIL: I don't know how this works. That's why
9 I'm raising the question.

10 BISHOP: You have to think very carefully about
11 that. This is the way I'm reading what you're
12 saying, is that the conjunctive use may be
13 detrimentally impacting your ability to clean up
14 this plume. Well, on the other side, the Raymond
15 Basin could turn around and say "Your pollution has
16 detrimentally impacted the way we can use
17 conjunctive use and if you're going to try and stop
18 this program, we're going to turn around and sue you
19 for natural resource determination."

20 BURIL: Right.

21 BISHOP: I think what you want to do is try and
22 keep with them to work this together.

23 BURIL: Obviously.

24 BISHOP: It would be nice to say "You guys, just
25 stop until we're done."

1 BURIL: That's not going to happen.

2 BISHOP: But that's --

3 BURIL: See, what I'm trying to understand is,
4 one, is there a recognition of a higher goal in
5 terms of remediation, or has this ever been an issue
6 where there's a water resource management program
7 being implemented in an area that overlaps into a
8 remediation?

9 BISHOP: Every time.

10 BURIL: I assumed that was true.

11 So one of the things I'm wondering is, is
12 there a mechanism by which you identify the, quote,
13 higher goal, or is there a higher goal?

14 BISHOP: There is a -- the water resource is the
15 top goal.

16 BURIL: Okay.

17 BISHOP: That's the purpose, is to protect the
18 water resource.

19 BURIL: Okay.

20 BISHOP: Now, how you define that water resource
21 is where you come into difficulty, because to the
22 Raymond Basin, the resource is both the water that's
23 in there and the water they can put in.

24 BURIL: So it's a management issue as well as an
25 existing resource issue.

1 BISHOP: Right. Exactly. Because it's an issue
2 of -- if you've detrimentally affected the basin so
3 it can no longer be used for a conjunctive use
4 project, then in essence you've reduced the Raymond
5 Basin's ability to manage their resource. And
6 that's a very --

7 BURIL: That's a big deal.

8 BISHOP: Yes. And it's a very difficult deal to
9 issue because it's not a past thing that you can say
10 it was worth this much and now it's only worth this
11 much. It's a possible future benefit both to the
12 Raymond Basin and to the State of California.

13 ROBLES: But if the Raymond Basin project for
14 putting in water, and they know that the site is
15 contaminated and they're putting in water and then
16 they come back to us and say, "Well, you
17 contaminated our resources that we injected into
18 this aquifer." That I have a problem with, knowing
19 that and then coming back to us.

20 BISHOP: Right. That's what I was trying to say
21 earlier, is that the other option they have is that
22 they could just calculate what the amount of money
23 they could have saved by using this as a conjunctive
24 use and turning around and asking NASA to pay that
25 because they can't use it for conjunctive use

1 because of this contamination. That's why I think
2 you want to try and get together to make it a joint
3 effort.

4 BURIL: Absolutely.

5 BISHOP: Which is what we've done for Baldwin
6 Park. They have a conjunctive use effort which
7 combines the conjunctive use with the CERCLA remedy
8 for clean-up. They pump more water that way for
9 treatment, and there's also the benefit of the
10 income of the conjunctive use to offset the cost of
11 the treatment portion.

12 Because what they really want to do is
13 pump a lot of water. What you need to do is pump
14 water in certain areas. Maybe what you can do is
15 combine those two needs into one so it's done in a
16 way that helps the contamination.

17 BURIL: Raymond Basin has already expressed an
18 interest in talking to us. In fact, as noted on the
19 agenda, we do have a meeting set regarding
20 conjunctive use.

21 I guess what we're hearing is that we need
22 to work together with Raymond Basin on this thing
23 very, very carefully. So this meeting is probably
24 apropos.

25 We've kind of fallen into a little bit of

1 number 5. Let me pass out another piece of
2 information that came out just a few days ago.

3 MELCHIOR: Chuck, can I borrow you for about
4 five seconds to ask you a question?

5 BURIL: Sure.

6 MELCHIOR: Maybe something you may want to ask.

7 LOWE: Do we want to just --

8 BURIL: Do you want to take a break for about 10
9 minutes and reconvene?

10 BISHOP: I'll go grab a cup of coffee.

11 BURIL: Sure. Okay. We'll take a break.

12 (A recess was taken from
13 10:36 A.M. to 10:55 A.m.)

14 BURIL: What I passed out here for everyone is a
15 copy of a letter that I received as I stepped in the
16 door from Christmas vacation. This is from Raymond
17 Basin Management Board, as you can see, and it
18 expresses concern about the information that they've
19 received thus far, and also somewhat about the
20 conjunctive use program.

21 Now, I called my principal contact. I
22 know Bill Bangham. And Ron Palmer, the fellow who
23 signed this, is a gentleman who works for Valley
24 Service Company. He works right here over on
25 Hampton Road. He's my principal contact with

1 Raymond Basin. And calling him and saying "Hey,
2 what exactly are you asking for, because we want to
3 work with you."

4 What he stated was that, one, they haven't
5 seen the older data, the RIFS data that we have from
6 back in '94 and that's something that hasn't been
7 published in the reports yet. But he was also
8 concerned by the fact that originally the schedule
9 said that we would be coming to remediation about
10 this point in time and we're still in a
11 characterization phase as a result of data that
12 we've had.

13 And so he was asking "Well, what can you
14 tell us now?"

15 And what we've agreed to do is to meet
16 with him on February 12th. This is the Executive
17 Board of the Raymond Basin Management Board. It's a
18 subset of the full board, basically. It's the
19 directors of the various water companies, for the
20 most part. And just basically give them a little
21 dog and pony show about where we're at.

22 We've also agreed that as information is
23 made available to repositories, we will provide that
24 to them directly. So the first groundwater
25 monitoring report that has been sent to you folks

1 and should be sitting in your desk is also being
2 sent to them.

3 LOWE: Good.

4 BURIL: So we will use that as the basis for
5 providing them information.

6 And I indicated to Ron that when we do
7 meet that I would be sure that you folks knew about
8 it and then also offer the opportunity that if you
9 wanted to be participants in that meeting to answer
10 questions from them to you directly, there was the
11 opportunity for that as well.

12 LOWE: What time is the meeting?

13 BURIL: It has not been scheduled beyond the
14 day, which is February 12th.

15 LOWE: Okay.

16 BURIL: Generally, I think they start at 9:00 or
17 9:30 is the typical full meeting.

18 ROBLES: It would be nice to be in force, all of
19 us.

20 BURIL: I think all of us showing up could be
21 very beneficial and certainly give them a better
22 feeling for what's going on.

23 GEBERT: That is a State holiday, however.

24 BURIL: Oh, it is?

25 GEBERT: Yes. I don't know --

1 LOWE: It's a State holiday for you too?

2 GEBERT: Yes. For Jon it is. I don't know for
3 Debbie.

4 ROBLES: What holiday is it?

5 BURIL: What is it?

6 GEBERT: Lincoln's birthday.

7 LOWE: It says Ash Wednesday on my calendar.

8 BURIL: Let's see here. I brought a calendar
9 for '99.

10 BISHOP: That's not really a problem.

11 GEBERT: Not really for me either.

12 BISHOP: Of course, I don't keep track of the
13 State holidays.

14 BURIL: You just work whatever you have to.

15 BISHOP: Until I walk up and the door is locked
16 and I realize I made a mistake.

17 I think Monday is a holiday too.

18 MELCHIOR: It is.

19 BISHOP: This coming Monday.

20 LOWE: Martin Luther King?

21 BURIL: Yes. The 20th is.

22 On my calendar her it shows the 14th being
23 Valentine's Day and the 17th being President's Day.
24 So it must be a State holiday.

25 GEBERT: Yes. We have a few additional

1 holidays. But for me it's no problem.

2 BISHOP: It's not a problem.

3 BURIL: That's the day. I'll get back to you
4 with a time as soon as it's made available to me.

5 What I was told basically is they were
6 going to put us on the agenda. In large part, we
7 will be the agenda. I asked that this be an
8 information exchange kind of meeting rather than a
9 dog and pony show, that we'll give them the
10 information that we have available to us and can
11 offer them and be prepared to answer questions, but
12 in turn we'd like to hear more about this
13 conjunctive use and the role that Raymond Basin is
14 going to be playing in it and as much information as
15 they can provide us about that.

16 ROBLES: Also, we need to ask them the role that
17 they envision us to play.

18 BURIL: I think this is the beginning of that
19 whole long partnership that we will ultimately have
20 with Raymond Basin and the conjunctive use is to
21 understand, first, what our individual concerns are
22 and then I'll identify how we can resolve those
23 mutually. So this is the first of many meetings,
24 I'm sure.

25 Okay.

1 LOWE: Another thought is that we could also
2 apply the interim ROD concept on site and really
3 look at trying to do a quick and dirty hot spot
4 groundwater treatment with a thought that if you
5 can, you know, start to deal with your worst area of
6 contamination here, that in two years when the
7 conjunctive use project is going, the issues won't
8 be quite as difficult.

9 BURIL: Yes. I can see that as our own
10 opportunity to accelerate cleanup here.

11 I think that probably it's best for us to
12 try understand a little bit more. Personally, I
13 feel like I'm working in a vacuum when it comes to
14 this conjunctive use thing.

15 Quite honestly, it makes me nervous as
16 hell because I just don't know what it's going to
17 do. If I can dump a 2,000-gallon system up here and
18 find out they're going to be injecting at Lincoln
19 Avenue 3 at 2,000 gallons a minute and suddenly I
20 draw a nexus between the two because of the
21 hydrogeology and I'm not cleaning up anything, then
22 I've kind of wasted my money and time.

23 LOWE: But if that's not going to happen for two
24 years, if you can get something in there like soon
25 and start dealing with your hot spot area, it won't

1 be quite as severe of a problem.

2 BURIL: "Soon" in this particular organization
3 is --

4 ROBLES: Two years.

5 BURIL: -- something of a geologic term. Two
6 years would be soon. He's right. Two years would
7 be soon just to get it through everything that we
8 had to do.

9 Now, we can do things that are less
10 intrusive, like vapor extraction. I don't think
11 that would be as difficult to do. But a water
12 treatment system, which could easily be the size and
13 magnitude of the one across the Arroyo in order to
14 affect a reasonable cone of depression in a cleanup
15 area, is going to take some time.

16 LOWE: What about even some innovative
17 technologies to try and do in situ treatment in the
18 ground.

19 BURIL: For example?

20 LOWE: Aren't there systems that like -- you
21 know, for shallow areas where you can pull up the
22 water, then just let it fall back down and kind of
23 try and aerate it a little bit?

24 BURIL: You're talking about in situ sparging,
25 in essence.

1 LOWE: Yes.

2 MELCHIOR: Or the iron filings that they're
3 using up at Dill Air Force Base.

4 CUTLER: That's tough at these depths because
5 your area of influence may be 15 feet or so, or 20
6 feet. It's tough to get down that far. I mean,
7 it's 200 feet to get to groundwater up there.

8 BISHOP: The big issue I've seen with it is that
9 you really are dealing with the top 5 to 10 feet of
10 the aquifer. If that's where your main problem is,
11 then that's a great use. If you've got a
12 significant column of groundwater, you don't get
13 much benefit. You remove mass. That you do. But
14 you don't get a lot of benefit in terms of any kind
15 of knocking down of your contamination.

16 BURIL: There's no containment of it whatsoever.

17 BISHOP: No, not at all. It's not built at all
18 to do that. It's just mass removal. Sometimes
19 that's really helpful if your contamination is
20 limited to a shallow portion.

21 BURIL: Floating product would be a great
22 example.

23 BISHOP: Well, even VOCs that haven't, you
24 know --

25 buril: Yeah.

1 BISHOP: -- because they don't sink all that
2 quickly, especially if they're dissolved and not --
3 there's no pure product. If you've got -- I mean,
4 that's I think a problem with this, is that we
5 aren't sure if we've got contamination at depth
6 because we've only got the shallow wells in that --

7 BURIL: Which is what we're going to be
8 remedying with the wells we're going to be putting
9 in.

10 An interim ROD would seem to be reasonable
11 for source removal -- rather an interim remedial,
12 not interim ROD but interim remedial action would be
13 reasonable, and something that we said we would look
14 at, and we fully intend to when we get the data of
15 what we're dealing with.

16 Groundwater cleanup is one that, based on
17 my understanding of our site, it's going to be a
18 massive undertaking, and that massive level of
19 effort is going to take a massive amount of money.
20 That we don't have programmed in, and I don't
21 believe NASA has the wherewithal to absorb a change
22 of \$3 or 4 million bucks, which would be my off the
23 top guess of what we'd be talking about --

24 ROBLES: Minimum.

25 BURIL: -- to put something in.

1 I don't know. I don't think Goldin would
2 appreciate it. That's the manager of the division.

3 ROBLES: We haven't seen the final budget yet
4 from Congress, but it looks like it's going to be
5 cut, which means it's going to have an impact on our
6 environmental compliance funding.

7 BURIL: We don't anticipate a problem with our
8 current scope of work at all, but additions to,
9 significant additions, like a water treatment plant,
10 could be a problem not only technically but from an
11 administrative standpoint, too.

12 BISHOP: Another thing you might consider is
13 discussions with the Raymond Basin Management
14 District, because they may not have the same level
15 of constraints on funding and procurement that you
16 do to do something that would be of benefit for both
17 of you. I think it's early to come into that
18 decision, but sometimes a private party or a smaller
19 bureaucracy has the ability to do something in a
20 fast turn-around that is what we would call interim
21 action or removal action, and that may be of benefit
22 to both of you in the long term.

23 BURIL: That's worth at least opening
24 discussion. We'll think about it, sure.

25 We talked about the conjunctive use

1 program overall last time, didn't we? You had kind
2 of a feel for what it was all about?

3 BISHOP: Right. You gave us a --

4 BURIL: Those documents and stuff.

5 LOWE: Yes.

6 BURIL: I have extra copies if anyone needs
7 them. I just wanted to be sure that you did have
8 those and didn't have any problems with lack of
9 information.

10 I think, really, we're coming down to a
11 couple other things here that I'll just present to
12 you here. There's one thing here that I want to
13 pass out to everyone.

14 This is a copy of a letter that was given
15 to us at the very end of December from Montgomery
16 Labs. It's talking about the identification of
17 unknown compounds and how they did it. So I'll just
18 pass this out and you can have this as our document
19 of what our lab has done in terms of compound
20 identification.

21 Basically what it comes down to is they
22 followed all the protocols that are in existence.
23 If they say it's unknown, it's unknown only because
24 none of the protocols that they're able to run can
25 identify what's going on. And they're based in the

1 clip requirements and the various methodologies, and
2 so forth.

3 Now, this is just provided for your
4 information. I didn't plan to discuss this at all,
5 unless maybe at our next meeting you might have a
6 question.

7 I'll point out on the second page, the
8 paragraph just below the bullets is kind of our
9 laboratory's final word on how they deal with these
10 things. I think the last sentence says it all.
11 They feel it's not good scientific practice to
12 deviate from published regulatory agency guidance
13 for identification of unknowns. Basically what they
14 did is followed all the guidance.

15 So information and for possible future
16 discussion, if you feel it necessary.

17 BISHOP: Okay.

18 BURIL: It looks like we're down to the last
19 part of this, and that is the partnering meeting,
20 other than anything else.

21 Before we do that, is there anything else
22 anyone wants to bring to the table to talk about
23 before we start talking about the partnering
24 meeting?

25 LOWE: I brought some guidance documents down

1 for your use.

2 BURIL: Okay. Great.

3 LOWE: I didn't bring enough copies for
4 everybody, but what I have is Presumptive Remedy
5 Guidance on Site Characterization and Technology
6 Selection for CERCLA Sites with VOCs in Soils.

7 I also have a brand new copy of our
8 Guidance on Presumptive Remedy Strategy for
9 Contaminated Groundwater.

10 BURIL: I've heard that term before, but my
11 memory fails me. What does "presumptive remedy"
12 mean?

13 LOWE: It's essentially saying, you know,
14 there's some situations where it's really obvious
15 what kind of remedy you should be implementing. Do
16 you have VOCs in soils? The most logical thing to
17 do is to do SVE. If you have a landfill, the most
18 logical thing to do is cap it. And with groundwater
19 the most logical thing is to pump and treat it. So
20 instead of the lead agency going out and researching
21 all the potential ways of trying to solve it, if you
22 would like to streamline your process, you can
23 streamline your FS by following these guidances.

24 BURIL: Sounds like a good idea to me.

25 LOWE: I also brought these two, which I found

1 at the last minute and didn't make copies of.
2 Presumptive Remedies; Policy and Guidance kind of
3 explains what it is, and then Feasibility Study
4 Requirements and Administrative Record Requirements
5 when you do use presumptive remedies. So maybe we
6 can either --

7 BURIL: Can Diane get copies of those for us?

8 ROBLES: Sure. How many copies do we need?

9 BURIL: Why don't we start with a couple, and
10 then I can fan them out to everybody. We can send
11 them to you, if that's all right, with the minutes.

12 GEBERT: I'm pretty sure we don't have these.

13 BISHOP: Of course not. They're October 1996.

14 GEBERT: I'm sure we don't.

15 BURIL: Hot off the press.

16 LOWE: So I have, I guess, a copy to you. Shall
17 I give the other copy to Peter or Foster Wheeler?

18 BURIL: I'll make a copy for Peter, but I'd like
19 them to have it.

20 I appreciate your bringing those.

21 That's good. We'll have to talk about
22 that. I think we probably are in a site that we can
23 pretty well figure out what we're going to do
24 without a whole lot of discussion. We'll see.

25 Dan is looking at me like "Are you out of

1 your mind?"

2 Why don't we talk a little bit, then,
3 about our meeting that we have tentatively scheduled
4 in February. At that meeting I'll say that we
5 aren't planning on taking notes and records, and so
6 forth, like we are here. So I'm going to ask this
7 discussion on the partnering be taken off the record
8 and we can talk about whatever it is we want to talk
9 about and how we want to set that meeting up and see
10 if we can come to closure on what we want to talk
11 about there and be sure we can make it all work.

12 (Discussion held outside the record
13 from 11:14 A.M. to is 11:38 A.M.)

14 BURIL: Let's go back on the record, please.

15 We have action items here for this meeting
16 that we established.

17 That was that we'll be putting the
18 quarterly report and the groundwater results for the
19 last two quarters on the agenda for the next meeting
20 to discuss those and what impact they may have in
21 our decisions regarding the project as a whole,
22 including interim ROD.

23 We also have the Raymond Basin Management
24 Board scheduled currently for February 12th, and all
25 RPMs from the agencies are invited to attend and sit

1 in at the meeting.

2 And we'll also be distributing the copies
3 of the prepublication of the office solid waste
4 emergency response guidance presumptive response
5 guidance stuff, which is the thick one here.

6 Is that all one document, that huge title?

7 NOVELLY: Yes.

8 BURIL: I wasn't sure if there was an "and"
9 because of the second document or not.

10 So that came out of this meeting.

11 Out of the last meeting, I have copies of
12 this. I'm going to try and take a look at the
13 action items here. I admit to not having done this
14 until now. I think we've got everything pretty well
15 set.

16 We signed off on our RPM consensus
17 statement, which is great.

18 LOWE: Have we looked to see that we're doing
19 all the things that were in the consensus statement?

20 BURIL: Good question.

21 LOWE: I thought one of the things was that we
22 were going to together and look at the PE samples
23 and what should be in them.

24 BURIL: That's a good point.

25 LOWE: I don't think that's happened.

1 BURIL: No, that hasn't happened. You've raised
2 an excellent point.

3 I'm not prepared to talk to it today. I
4 don't think you guys are, are you?

5 LOWE: Can Foster Wheeler take a first crack at
6 it, make a proposal and send it out to us?

7 MELCHIOR: Of what should be in the PE samples?

8 LOWE: Yes.

9 BURIL: Yes.

10 CUTLER: Yes, we could do that.

11 BURIL: I'll make that assignment officially.

12 MELCHIOR: I sent you some catalogs recently.

13 BURIL: You did, and I have those buried in my
14 office somewhere. I just moved to a new office.
15 I've got to unbury them. I'll find those.

16 I think maybe we should talk about what
17 the proposal ought to have in it and then fire it
18 out to these folks so we can be sure that's taken
19 care of.

20 That's a good point, Debbie. Thank you.

21 We've talked about the conjunctive use,
22 and we've talked about the interim ROD, which was
23 Debbie's information here regarding interim ROD.

24 LOWE: How are we going to try and resolve that?
25 Do you guys want to think about it and then --

1 BURIL: I think we're in a position of needing
2 to just kind of pull back and think what the
3 guidance has to offer, what that means to us, what
4 steps we would have to take. There's other
5 concerns, too, that may pop up. I don't know what
6 they are right now. But there may be something in
7 there that may be unpalatable to us. I don't know.

8 LOWE: So are we looking to rediscuss this at
9 the next conference call or the next meeting?

10 BURIL: I think we could, at the minimum, give a
11 status at the next conference call. But I think a
12 full-blown discussion should be face to face at our
13 next meeting.

14 LOWE: Okay.

15 BURIL: We're meeting today, which was no
16 problem.

17 Now, I have something here about the City
18 of Pasadena agreement, which I guess is something
19 you had asked for, Debbie, as I recall.

20 LOWE: That's correct.

21 BURIL: I don't know what's occurred as a result
22 of that.

23 ROBLES: We don't have that.

24 LOWE: This was actually a request I made to you
25 quite a while ago, Peter, if I could get a copy of

1 either NASA's or JPL's agreement with the City of
2 Pasadena. You had said that you would check with
3 your attorneys to see if you could release that to
4 me.

5 ROBLES: Yes. That's not a problem. I checked
6 with the attorneys because basically it was JPL who
7 signed it. But it's JPL's call.

8 BURIL: Oh, it is?

9 ROBLES: That's what Bill Barr was saying.

10 LOWE: So, Chuck, maybe you want to talk to your
11 attorney.

12 BURIL: I will. Judy, please make a note of
13 that. Talk to Yohalem about what we can do on this.

14 ROBLES: Because the bottom line was that this
15 has been, is it our document or is it the
16 contractor's document. I said "We're paying for
17 it," but then they said "No. NASA is not a
18 signatory," so it's not our document.

19 LOWE: Okay.

20 ROBLES: It shocked me. We paid. We signed it.
21 No.

22 BURIL: Number 3 on that agenda.

23 BISHOP: That worked out well, Peter. You're
24 paying for it. You had no signature approval on it.
25 Nice job.

1 ROBLES: If I was here, it might be different,
2 but I wasn't here. Before my time.

3 BURIL: That was everything out of the previous
4 meeting. I think we've pretty well covered
5 everything.

6 LOWE: Can we schedule our next conference call?

7 BURIL: Absolutely. I even brought a calendar.

8 NOVELLY: Approve the minutes.

9 BURIL: Thank you.

10 The formal approval of the minutes from
11 the last meeting. Were there any changes, additions
12 or corrections?

13 BISHOP: No.

14 BURIL: Then the meeting minutes stand approved
15 as written.

16 Thank you, Judy.

17 All right. We're sitting here at January
18 16th. The first Thursday is the 6th, if we want to
19 stick with that schedule. Is that agreeable to
20 everybody?

21 GEBERT: I can't do it that day.

22 BURIL: The next Thursday after that is the
23 13th, but actually we'll be here together on the
24 12th for that Raymond Basin Management Board
25 meeting.

1 MELCHIOR: Why don't you just have it a half
2 hour --

3 BURIL: Just take a half hour face-to-face at
4 that point in time? Is that something that's
5 useful?

6 LOWE: That's possible. I'm not absolutely sure
7 that I'll come down for that. I'm going to try.

8 BURIL: If not, then maybe a phone call that day
9 sometime. Unfortunately, I don't have a time for
10 that meeting yet. My guess is that it will probably
11 start at 9:00 or 9:30, which is standard time, which
12 means you're on an airplane at 7:00 if you want to
13 get here. Right?

14 LOWE: Yes, unfortunately.

15 ROBLES: Unless you come down the night before.

16 LOWE: I have theater tickets for the night
17 before.

18 BURIL: You don't want to mess with that.

19 MELCHIOR: Did you say the 12th is when you're
20 going to have this --

21 BURIL: The 12th is the Raymond Basin
22 conjunctive use meeting.

23 MELCHIOR: That thing probably wouldn't go much
24 past noon, would it?

25 BURIL: It depends on the level of discussion we

1 end up in, but I would say you're right, off the top
2 of my head. Why don't we say 2:00 o'clock on the
3 12th, assuming that we do not all meet together on
4 that day. That will give people a chance to get
5 back to their office or hang around here if you
6 want. Either way.

7 And the next RPM meeting. Technically,
8 we're required to meet once every three months.
9 That would be March. The Ides of March.

10 MELCHIOR: We're in January now. It wouldn't be
11 March. It would be April.

12 BURIL: April. Excuse me. There's too much
13 pain associated with the 15th of March, so let's
14 pick a different date.

15 BISHOP: 15th of April.

16 GEBERT: 15th of April is even more painful.

17 LOWE: It's going to be easier for me if I can
18 try and tie some of these meetings together. I know
19 one thought was to try and tie our partnering
20 session to the conjunctive use meeting. But if we
21 can't, is there any way we can tie the partnering
22 meeting to the RPM meeting?

23 BURIL: The partnering meeting would, I guess,
24 be pushed back into the April time frame if we did
25 that.

1 LOWE: Or compromise and move them both into
2 March.

3 ROBLES: I think March would be a time when we
4 try to meet together with the partnering meeting to
5 facilitate that.

6 BURIL: Let me do this. Before we establish the
7 next RPM meeting time let me see what's available at
8 the Athenaeum. If we can get it on the 13th of
9 February, then that would be, I think, good for you
10 at least at that point, would it not? To have the
11 Raymond Basin meeting and then the partnering
12 meeting the next day.

13 LOWE: Yes.

14 BURIL: Then we could schedule something in
15 April for an RPM meeting.

16 LOWE: Okay.

17 BURIL: If not, then we'll try to merge
18 partnering and RPM in the latter part of March.

19 LOWE: Can we do this. Can we look at March and
20 can people say which dates absolutely wouldn't work
21 so at least we have a starting point for your
22 secretary?

23 BURIL: At this point right now I'm open.

24 ROBLES: The week of the 17th or the week of the
25 24th. The last two weeks in March. Any problem

1 there?

2 LOWE: The 26th is a problem for me.

3 MELCHIOR: How about the 25th?

4 LOWE: What I said is not that we're going to
5 pick a date, but at least so when Laurann starts
6 calling around.

7 ROBLES: So the 26th is not good for you.

8 LOWE: Yes.

9 MELCHIOR: Could we keep it either on a Tuesday,
10 Wednesday or Thursday, please?

11 BURIL: He's flying from the east coast. He's
12 got it even worse.

13 LOWE: If we're doing, you know, the partnering
14 session on one day that you don't need to be there,
15 we could put the RPM meeting on Thursday, the
16 partnering on Friday, so you wouldn't be traveling
17 on Friday.

18 BURIL: That's fine. Let me see what's
19 available, but we'll shoot for either the partnering
20 being on the 13th, if possible. If not, we'll leave
21 it where we currently have it, and currently we have
22 it on the 26th of February.

23 GEBERT: I wasn't aware there was any date.

24 BURIL: I just remembered that my secretary said
25 that the best time right now was the 26th. So I'll

1 ask you to put that on your calendar. First of all,
2 does that pose a major problem for anybody on
3 February 26th?

4 LOWE: Not a major problem. I'll miss a
5 conference call that I should be on but don't have
6 to be on.

7 BURIL: So the 26th as an alternate date as it
8 stands, but the preferred date that we have to check
9 is the 13th.

10 Then if that doesn't work, if the 13th
11 doesn't work, we'll look to move the partnering and
12 RPM into March. So maybe the 26th date isn't really
13 going to work regardless. We may just have to move
14 that around. It doesn't sound like it will work.

15 LOWE: I think we should either go for 13th for
16 partnering --

17 BURIL: Or sometime in March.

18 ROBLES: Or the last two weeks in March.

19 BURIL: Why don't we make a note of that and
20 we'll get Laurann working on that. Too many
21 meetings. Anything else we need to throw on the
22 table before we adjourn?

23 I think we did a good job. Thank you all
24 very much.

25 (The proceedings adjourned at 11:51 A.M.)